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2008 HARFORD AWARDS PRESENTED

(Bel Air, MD - September 25, 2008) - - The 17th annual Harford Awards Program was held Wednesday, September 24th at the Richlin Ballroom. Over 380 business and community leaders attended the dinner event that recognized five

Harford County firms for their outstanding contributions to the community, the economy and their employees. Since its inception, the event has honored over 77 companies including these honorees.

This year's winners were: Clark Turner Companies, Father Martin's Ashley, Gessner, Snee, Mahoney and Lutche, P.A., Log.Sec Corporation and Stella May Contracting, Inc. Each organization represents the best in each of the following respective business categories: Retail, Nonprofit, Service, Technology and Industrial.

2008 Harford Award Winners:

Clark Turner Companies

Clark Turner Companies started out in 1977 with only two employees but with growth and expansion Clark Turner Companies now has over 35 dedicated team members. The company specializes in land development, commercial construction, leasing and property management, real estate brokerage and landscaping. Clark Turner Companies is a pioneer in the revitalization of the Route 40 Corridor. The Water's Edge Corporate Campus in Belcamp is a superb example of redevelopment and smart growth. At the other end of Route 40 in Harford County, Clark Turner Companies has the Bulle Rock development and with the popularity of the location, the LPGA has been hosted at the golf course for the past four years. Clark Turner is the only builder to have twice been named "Builder of the Year" by the Homes Builders Association of Maryland.

Father Martin's Ashley

Father Martin's Ashley just celebrated their 25th anniversary. Founded on Faith, Ashley's sole purpose is to heal those who suffer from addiction. Since 1983, Ashley has treated over 24,000 patients and currently employs 200 people.

Father Martin, as the founder of Ashley, is famous for "The Blackboard Talk" and is known throughout the military and the country for his teachings.

Ashley supports programs in numerous schools and has been involved with a number of community organizations during the last 25 years.

Gessner, Snee, Mahoney and Lutche, P.A.

This law firm started back in the 1990s in Bel Air with a staff of eight and now has a total of thirty employees. Gessner, Snee, Mahoney & Lutche, P.A. (GSML) has grown along side the business that they have helped to grow. GSML continues to shepherd the business through to success, remain their advisors and provide sophisticated, yet practical business advice. GSML supports both public and private education by volunteering in schools for presentation such as "Achievement Counts" and the Harford County Bar Association DUI Mock trial presentations. Every attorney gives back through volunteerism in over 15 different community organizations.

Log.Sec Corporation

Log.Sec Corporation was founded in 2000 as a professional service company providing performance-based logistics, engineering, test & evaluation and information technology service to the U.S. Army and other Department of Defense customers. Log.Sec is ranked as the largest government contractor providing information technology services to the United States Army at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

The Stella May Contracting, Inc.

Stella May Contracting, Inc. began operation in 1995 by President and Owner, Stella M. Miller. The first year of operation the company hired three employees. Today there are 45 employees with their corporate office in Edgewood and two satellite offices in Baltimore City and Laurel, Maryland. Her company has been the recipient of several Maryland organizations' awards for achievements as a minority and woman owned business.

A final award was presented to Bonnie Geddes in memory of Bob "Lee" Geddes who passed away suddenly in March of this year. Mr. Lee, as he was known to all in Harford County, served as the Master of Ceremonies for the Harford Awards for the last fifteen years and was employed by Harford County Government's Department of Parks and Recreation.

The Harford Awards program, produced by Harford County Government, the Office of Economic Development; Harford Community College; and the Harford County Chamber of Commerce, continues to be a celebratory occasion to honor these prestigious companies who give back to the community.

Activities were videotaped by Comcast, a corporate sponsor and major contributor to the evening. Comcast videotaped segments for each award winner, which premiered during the awards ceremony and will be broadcasted at 8 pm every Saturday evening in October on Harford Cable Network on Comcast Channel 21 and Armstrong (Clearview) Channel 7.

For more information on Harford Award Winners or to nominate a company for consideration of the 2009 Harford Award, contact the Office of Economic Development at 410-638-3059 or visit their website at www.harfordbusiness.org.